

**WAYSIDE THOUGHTS BY A
CHRISTIAN PILGRIM. THE
RECREATION
OF WEARY DAYS. THE SOLACE
OF SUFFERING NIGHTS. 1860-62**

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Wayside Thoughts by a Christian Pilgrim. The Recreation of Weary Days. The Solace of Suffering Nights. 1860-62 by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

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THE SOLACE OF SUFFERING NIGHTS.

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P R E F A C E.

IF months of almost unremitted suffering bear no fruit for other's good no less than for one's own, its object can scarcely be said to have been attained. How far the attainment in the present case is for the future to decide.

Enough indeed for myself the Record of suffering hours not altogether profitlessly employed, bringing as it does, to the recollection what, I would still believe, were the whisperings of the Spirit the Comforter and the glad Response made to them from within, and still more, enkindling the hope that life yet spared for future duties will be spent, far better than the past, for my Master's glory and the good of my fellow-men. But surely "Consolations abound in order that we may be able to comfort others with the consolation wherewith we are comforted of God." The world of Christian sufferers is large, far greater than can be reached by living tongue; nor are the written pages, wherein the comforted have spoken, yet too

numerous for the wide variety of human woe; while the fact will be readily acknowledged, that by far the greater number of volumes intended for its alleviation are repetitions not only of the thoughts, but the words of the speakers. The eye familiar with our written sources of human consolation at once rests, in almost every such volume, upon lines well-known and valued. Nor if a thought of such an honour to be accorded to anything found herein be entertained, let blame attach to me. I would live in the heart of many beyond my own time and generation. I would "though dead, yet speak;" "I have believed and therefore have I spoken;" I know that faith and patience have but to be tried for the very fire to issue in praise. Not mere echoes are to be heard of "voices in the night," but the Pilgrim's songs are to be called forth and felt to harmonize with the notes struck by the great Master-hand. Their language, however simple, shall be recognised as part of the Heavenly Melody, and excite in their fellow-pilgrims their utterance of praise. If mine the privilege of eliciting one such utterance from a fellow-sufferer, I shall know the blessing attained, even though it may be "after many days."

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